

# THE Edison Report

edison@state.tn.us ♦ November 2005 ♦ Volume 1 ♦ Number 1 ♦ <http://intranet.state.tn.us/erp>

## Project Edison Historical Review

Project Edison, the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project designed to update and improve many of the State's administrative business processes, has moved into the acquisition phase. Project Edison will integrate functions such as human resources, payroll, benefits, financials and procurement, and will eliminate many systems such as STARS, SEIS, TIS, Payroll and TOPS.

Because ERP systems integrate basic business functions, they allow for more efficient business processes. This statewide initiative will have a significant impact on all departments and agencies.

The project began more than three years ago, with an eight-month assessment study conducted by Salvaggio, Teal and Associates (STA), an experienced ERP consulting firm. More than 150 meetings were conducted, involving approximately 750 attendees (280 individuals) from a wide cross section of state government (54 agencies).

It was determined that an ERP implementation would be the best solution for the State. (For more information on the history and the findings of the study, please visit: <http://intranet.state.tn.us/erp/history.htm>.)

In March 2005, an ERP Steering Committee was formed and an ERP Project Director was selected. The State procured consulting services from STA to aid in the development and implementation.

Next, an ERP team was formed with representatives from several core agencies. This group worked closely with departmental staff, documenting current practices and determining future requirements. These requirements were included in the Request for Proposal. (See *RFP Released on Target Date!*)

In a brainstorming session, the team decided to forego acronyms for the ERP implementation. Instead, the project was named "Edison," in honor of the ingenious and prolific inventor, Thomas A. Edison.

## Do You Have Questions/Suggestions?

To ensure the success of this project, we must work together as a team. We welcome your questions and suggestions! Please contact us via e-mail at: [edison@state.tn.us](mailto:edison@state.tn.us).

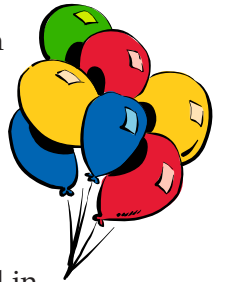


**If we did all the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astound ourselves.**

**- Thomas Edison**

## RFP Released on Target Date!

The Request for Proposal was released on the target date of October 21. A big thanks to everyone who helped us achieve this milestone! Your forward thinking and openness to change are commended!



From the employees who were involved in the original assessment study, to Subject Matter Experts, Liaisons, and numerous other key state employees, this RFP culminates months of intensive work. Your input has been invaluable!

The RFP, which seeks to purchase the software and related implementation, support and maintenance services, is located at: [www.state.tn.us/finance/oir/pcm/rfps/erp05](http://www.state.tn.us/finance/oir/pcm/rfps/erp05).

Please note: If you receive any questions from vendors, please refer them to Travis Johnson, RFP Coordinator, at 615-741-5727, or at [Travis.Johnson@state.tn.us](mailto:Travis.Johnson@state.tn.us). He is the only State employee the vendors may contact during the procurement phase without risking disqualification.

Forthcoming e-mails and newsletters will keep you up-to-date on Project Edison. Also, for more information, remember to visit our intranet site: <http://intranet.state.tn.us/erp>.



## What Happens Next?

- Proposals are due in December, with an intent to award in approximately two months.
- Technical evaluations and software demonstrations will be held in January and February.
- The project start date is scheduled for late Spring.
- HR/Payroll implementation "go-live" is scheduled for Dec. 31, 2007.
- Financials/Logistics/Procurement implementation "go-live" is scheduled for July 1, 2008.



*A Bright Idea for State Government*